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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/500,803	07/07/2004	Tachio Ono	03500.016946	8287
5514 7590 05/16/2007 FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO 30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA NEW YORK, NY 10112			EXAMINER KHOKHAR, ASIF I	
			ART UNIT 2609	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 05/16/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/500,803

Applicant(s)

ONO, TACHIO

Examiner

Asif Khokhar

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 July 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Priority***

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 03/15/2005 was filed after the mailing date of the application on 07/07/2004. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The term "its extended standard" is vague and indefinite because there are so many standard and it is not cleared which standard applicant mentioned.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The term "its extended standard" is vague and indefinite because there are so many standard and it is not cleared which standard applicant mentioned.

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Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The term "its extended standard" is vague and indefinite because there are so many standard and it is not cleared which standard applicant mentioned.

Claim 9 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The term "its extended standard" is vague and indefinite because there are so many standard and it is not cleared which standard applicant mentioned.

Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The term "its extended standard" is vague and indefinite because there are so many standard and it is not cleared which standard applicant mentioned.

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The term "its extended standard" is vague and indefinite because there are so many standard and it is not cleared which standard applicant mentioned.

Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as

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the invention. The term "its extended standard" is vague and indefinite because there are so many standard and it is not cleared which standard applicant mentioned.

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The term "its extended standard" is vague and indefinite because there are so many standard and it is not cleared which standard applicant mentioned.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 1-2,5-7,10-12, 15-17, 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kubo et al US2001/0006400 A1.

Regarding claim 1, Kobo '400 discloses a storage apparatus comprising (digital camera, abstract): a first digital interface (a memory cards 40a and 40b comprise portable storing media and may be mounted in and removed from the slots 41a and 41b, page 3, paragraph 0047 Fig. 4) having a first port (Connector 41a-1 which is mechanically and electrically connected to the memory card mounted in the slot 41a is located inside the slot 41a, page 3, paragraph 0030); and a second digital interface (The memory cards 40a and 40b comprise portable storing media and

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may be mounted in and removed from the slots 41a and 41b, page 3, paragraph 0047) having a second port (Connector 41b-1 which is mechanically and electrically connected to the memory card mounted in the slot 41b is located inside the slot 41a, page 2, paragraph 0030), wherein the second port is set in a disabled state if a first external apparatus connected to the first port accesses a removable medium (CPU 17 selects one slot as the slot to be accessed, in abstract. According to the first mood, a fixed mood, a predetermined slot is selected as the slot to be accessed from among the two slots 41a and 41b. Selected slot is the slot to accessed at all time. Page 4, paragraph 0058); and the first port is set in the disabled state if a second external apparatus connected to the second port accesses the removable medium (CPU 17 selects one slot as the slot to be accessed, in abstract. According to the first mood, a fixed mood, a predetermined slot is selected as the slot to be accessed from among the two slots 41a and 41b. Selected slot is the slot to accessed at all time. Page 4, paragraph 0058).

Regarding claim 2, Kobo discloses a storage apparatus (digital camera, abstract) If the first port is set in the disabled state, the first port is placed in a state where electrical connection with the first external apparatus is impossible, and if the second port is set in the disabled state, the second port is placed in a state where electrical connection with the second external apparatus is impossible. (The first mode is a fixed mode in which a pre-determined slot is selected as the slot to be accessed from among the two slots 41a and 41b. This fixed mode is associated with the upper level of the setting alternating switch 6b, such that this mode becomes activated when the user moves the setting alternating switch 6b to the upper level. In this mode, the specified slot, information regarding which is stored in the RAM 19, is read, and the slot that

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corresponds to the specified slot is determined to be the slot to be accessed. Either the slot 41a or 41b may be specified as the specified slot. For example, where the slot 41b is set as the specified slot and memory cards 40a and 40b are mounted in both slots 41a and 41b, the slot 41b is selected as the slot to be accessed at all times in this fixed mode, page 4, paragraph 0058, line 1).

Regarding claim 5, Kobo discloses the claimed invention including:

The storage apparatus is a digital video camera (a digital camera, in abstract).

Regarding claim 6, Kobo '400 discloses in Fig. 4 a digital camera that comprises the control method (in order to control each component of the digital camera 1, a camera control CPU (Central Processing Unit) 31 is located inside the camera, page 2, paragraph 0036) applied to a storage apparatus (digital camera, abstract) including a first digital interface (The memory cards 40a and 40b comprise portable storing media and may be mounted in and removed from the slots 41a and 41b, page 3, paragraph 0047) having a first port (Slots 41a, abstract); and a second digital interface (The memory cards 40a and 40b comprise portable storing media and may be mounted in and removed from the slots 41a and 41b, page 3, paragraph 0047) having a second port (Slots 41b, in abstract), wherein the second port is set in a disabled state if a first external apparatus connected to the first port accesses a removable medium (CPU 17 selects one slot as the slot to be accessed, in abstract); and the first port is set in the disabled state if a second external apparatus connected to the second port accesses the removable medium (CPU 17 selects one slot as the slot to be accessed, in abstract).

Regarding claim 7, Kobo '400 discloses a control method (in order to control each component of the digital camera 1, a camera control CPU (Central Processing Unit) 31 is located inside the camera, page 2, paragraph 0036) If the first port is set in the disabled state, the first port is placed in a state where electrical connection with the first external apparatus is impossible, and if the second port is set in the disabled state, the second port is placed in a state where electrical connection with the second external apparatus is impossible. (The first mode is a fixed mode in which a pre-determined slot is selected as the slot to be accessed from among the two slots 41a and 41b. This fixed mode is associated with the upper level of the setting alternating switch 6b, such that this mode becomes activated when the user moves the setting alternating switch 6b to the upper level. In this mode, the specified slot, information regarding which is stored in the RAM 19, is read, and the slot that corresponds to the specified slot is determined to be the slot to be accessed. Either the slot 41a or 41b may be specified as the specified slot. For example, where the slot 41b is set as the specified slot and memory cards 40a and 40b are mounted in both slots 41a and 41b, the slot 41b is selected as the slot to be accessed at all times in this fixed mode, page 4, paragraph 0058, line 1).

Regarding claim 10, Kobo discloses the claimed invention including:

The storage apparatus is a digital video camera (a digital camera, in abstract).

Regarding claim 11, Kobo discloses a storage apparatus (digital camera, in abstract) comprising: a first digital interface having a first port (The memory cards 40a and 40b comprise



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portable storing media and may be mounted in and removed from the slots 41a and 41b, page 3, paragraph 0047); and a second digital interface having a second port (The memory cards 40a and 40b comprise portable storing media and may be mounted in and removed from the slots 41a and 41b, page 3, paragraph 0047), wherein if the first digital interface receives a predetermined command, the second port is set in a disabled state; and if the second digital interface receives the predetermined command, the first port is set in the disabled state (The first mode is a fixed mode in which a pre-determined slot is selected as the slot to be accessed from among the two slots 41a and 41b. This fixed mode is associated with the upper level of the setting alternating switch 6b, such that this mode becomes activated when the user moves the setting alternating switch 6b to the upper level. In this mode, the specified slot, information regarding which is stored in the RAM 19, is read, and the slot that corresponds to the specified slot is determined to be the slot to be accessed. Either the slot 41a or 41b may be specified as the specified slot. For example, where the slot 41b is set as the specified slot and memory cards 40a and 40b are mounted in both slots 41a and 41b, the slot 41b is selected as the slot to be accessed at all times in this fixed mode, page 4, paragraph 0058, line 1).

Regarding claim 12, Kobo discloses a storage apparatus (digital camera, abstract) If the first port is set in the disabled state, the first port is placed in a state where electrical connection with the first external apparatus is impossible, and if the second port is set in the disabled state, the second port is placed in a state where electrical connection with the second external apparatus is impossible. (The first mode is a fixed mode in which a pre-determined slot is selected as the slot to be accessed from among the two slots 41a and 41b. This fixed mode is

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associated with the upper level of the setting alternating switch 6b, such that this mode becomes activated when the user moves the setting alternating switch 6b to the upper level. In this mode, the specified slot, information regarding which is stored in the RAM 19, is read, and the slot that corresponds to the specified slot is determined to be the slot to be accessed. Either the slot 41a or 41b may be specified as the specified slot. For example, where the slot 41b is set as the specified slot and memory cards 40a and 40b are mounted in both slots 41a and 41b, the slot 41b is selected as the slot to be accessed at all times in this fixed mode, page 4, paragraph 0058, line 1).

Regarding claim 15, Kobo discloses the claimed invention including:

The storage apparatus is a digital video camera (a digital camera, in abstract).

Regarding claim 16, Kobo '400 discloses a control method (in order to control each component of the digital camera 1, a camera control CPU (Central Processing Unit) 31 is located inside the camera, page 2, paragraph 0036) If the first port is set in the disabled state, the first port is placed in a state where electrical connection with the first external apparatus is impossible, and if the second port is set in the disabled state, the second port is placed in a state where electrical connection with the second external apparatus is impossible. (The first mode is a fixed mode in which a pre-determined slot is selected as the slot to be accessed from among the two slots 41a and 41b. This fixed mode is associated with the upper level of the setting alternating switch 6b, such that this mode becomes activated when the user moves the setting alternating switch 6b to the upper level. In this mode, the specified slot, information regarding

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which is stored in the RAM 19, is read, and the slot that corresponds to the specified slot is determined to be the slot to be accessed. Either the slot 41a or 41b may be specified as the specified slot. For example, where the slot 41b is set as the specified slot and memory cards 40a and 40b are mounted in both slots 41a and 41b, the slot 41b is selected as the slot to be accessed at all times in this fixed mode, page 4, paragraph 0058, line 1).

Regarding claim 17, Kobo discloses a control method (in order to control each component of the digital camera 1, a camera control CPU (Central Processing Unit) 31 is located inside the camera, page 2, paragraph 0036) wherein a first digital interface (The memory cards 40a and 40b comprise portable storing media and may be mounted in and removed from the slots 41a and 41b, page 3, paragraph 0047) having a first port (Slots 41a, abstract); and a second digital interface (The memory cards 40a and 40b comprise portable storing media and may be mounted in and removed from the slots 41a and 41b, page 3, paragraph 0047) having a second port (Slots 41b, in abstract), wherein the second port is set in a disabled state if a first external apparatus connected to the first port accesses a removable medium (CPU 17 selects one slot as the slot to be accessed, in abstract); and the first port is set in the disabled state if a second external apparatus connected to the second port accesses the removable medium (CPU 17 selects one slot as the slot to be accessed, in abstract).

Regarding claim 20, Kobo discloses the claimed invention including:

The storage apparatus is a digital video camera (a digital camera, in abstract).

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***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 3-4,8-9,13-14,18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kubo US2001/0006400 A1 ~~as applied to claim 1 above, and further~~ in view of Kubo US2001/0012064 A1.

With reference to claim 3, Kubo '400 has been discloses all the subjects as discussed in claim 1, but does not disclose: the first digital interface is pursuant to one of an IEEE1394-1995 standard and its extended standard. In Kubo '064, the external interface 20 is for communications in compliance with a USB (universal serial bus) or IEEE-1394 standard or the like (page 3, paragraph 0051). It allows input/output of captured image data from/to external equipment through a transmission medium such as a cable connected to the external interface.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use IEEE 1394 as first digital interface as thought by Kubo '064. The IEEE 1394 multimedia connection enables simple, low-cost, high-bandwidth isochronous (real-time) data interfacing between computers, peripherals, and consumer electronics products such as camcorders, VCRs, printers, PCs, TVs, and digital cameras. With IEEE 1394-compatible

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products and systems, users can transfer video or still images from a camera or camcorder to a printer, PC, or television, with no image degradation. It is a low cost cross-platform solution standardizes to transport all types of digital data.

With reference to claim 4, Kubo '400 has been disclosed all the subjects as discussed in claim 1, but does not disclose: the second digital interface is pursuant to one of a USB 1.1 standard and its extended standard. In Kubo '064, the external interface 20 is for communications in compliance with a USB (universal serial bus) or IEEE-1394 standard or the like (page 3, paragraph 0051). It allows input/output of captured image data from/to external equipment through a transmission medium such as a cable connected to the external interface.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use USB 1.1 standard as second digital interface as thought by Kubo '064. The major function of USB is to define an external expansion bus, which makes adding peripherals to a PC low cost and as easy as hooking up a telephone to a wall-jack.

With reference to claim 8, Kubo '400 has been disclosed all the subjects as discussed in claim 6, but does not disclose: the first digital interface is pursuant to one of an IEEE1394-1995 standard and its extended standard. In Kubo '064, the external interface 20 is for communications in compliance with a USB (universal serial bus) or IEEE-1394 standard or the like (page 3, paragraph 0051). It allows input/output of captured image data from/to external equipment through a transmission medium such as a cable connected to the external interface.

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use IEEE 1394 as first digital interface as thought by Kubo '064. The IEEE 1394 multimedia connection enables simple, low-cost, high-bandwidth isochronous (real-time) data interfacing between computers, peripherals, and consumer electronics products such as camcorders, VCRs, printers, PCs, TVs, and digital cameras. With IEEE 1394-compatible products and systems, users can transfer video or still images from a camera or camcorder to a printer, PC, or television, with no image degradation. It is a low cost cross-platform solution standardizes to transport all types of digital data.

With reference to claim 9, Kubo '400 has been disclosed all the subjects as discussed in claim 6, but does not disclose: the second digital interface is pursuant to one of a USB 1.1 standard and its extended standard. In Kubo '064, the external interface 20 is for communications in compliance with a USB (universal serial bus) or IEEE-1394 standard or the like (page 3, paragraph 0051). It allows input/output of captured image data from/to external equipment through a transmission medium such as a cable connected to the external interface.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use USB 1.1 standard as second digital interface as thought by Kubo '064. The major function of USB is to define an external expansion bus, which makes adding peripherals to a PC low cost and as easy as hooking up a telephone to a wall-jack.

With reference to claim 13, Kubo '400 has been disclosed all the subjects as discussed in claim 11, but does not disclose: the first digital interface is pursuant to

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one of an IEEE1394-1995 standard and its extended standard. In Kubo '064, the external interface 20 is for communications in compliance with a USB (universal serial bus) or IEEE-1394 standard or the like (page 3, paragraph 0051). It allows input/output of captured image data from/to external equipment through a transmission medium such as a cable connected to the external interface.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use IEEE 1394 as first digital interface as thought by Kubo '064. The IEEE 1394 multimedia connection enables simple, low-cost, high-bandwidth isochronous (real-time) data interfacing between computers, peripherals, and consumer electronics products such as camcorders, VCRs, printers, PCs, TVs, and digital cameras. With IEEE 1394-compatible products and systems, users can transfer video or still images from a camera or camcorder to a printer, PC, or television, with no image degradation. It is a low cost cross-platform solution standardizes to transport all types of digital data.

With reference to claim 14, Kubo '400 has been disclosed all the subjects as discussed in claim 11, but does not disclose: the second digital interface is pursuant to one of a USB 1.1 standard and its extended standard. In Kubo '064, the external interface 20 is for communications in compliance with a USB (universal serial bus) or IEEE-1394 standard or the like (page 3, paragraph 0051). It allows input/output of captured image data from/to external equipment through a transmission medium such as a cable connected to the external interface.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use USB 1.1 standard as second digital interface as thought by

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Kubo '064. The major function of USB is to define an external expansion bus, which makes adding peripherals to a PC low cost and as easy as hooking up a telephone to a wall-jack.

With reference to claim 18, Kubo '400 has been disclosed all the subjects as discussed in claim 16, but does not disclose: the first digital interface is pursuant to one of an IEEE1394-1995 standard and its extended standard. In Kubo '064, the external interface 20 is for communications in compliance with a USB (universal serial bus) or IEEE-1394 standard or the like (page 3, paragraph 0051). It allows input/output of captured image data from/to external equipment through a transmission medium such as a cable connected to the external interface.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use IEEE 1394 as first digital interface as thought by Kubo '064. The IEEE 1394 multimedia connection enables simple, low-cost, high-bandwidth isochronous (real-time) data interfacing between computers, peripherals, and consumer electronics products such as camcorders, VCRs, printers, PCs, TVs, and digital cameras. With IEEE 1394-compatible products and systems, users can transfer video or still images from a camera or camcorder to a printer, PC, or television, with no image degradation. It is a low cost cross-platform solution standardizes to transport all types of digital data.

With reference to claim 19, Kubo '400 has been disclosed all the subjects as discussed in claim 16, but does not disclose: the second digital interface is pursuant



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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Asif Khokhar

03MAY2007



TUAN HO  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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to one of a USB 1.1 standard and its extended standard. In Kubo '064, the external interface 20 is for communications in compliance with a USB (universal serial bus) or IEEE-1394 standard or the like (page 3, paragraph 0051). It allows input/output of captured image data from/to external equipment through a transmission medium such as a cable connected to the external interface.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to use USB 1.1 standard as second digital interface as thought by Kubo '064. The major function of USB is to define an external expansion bus, which makes adding peripherals to a PC low cost and as easy as hooking up a telephone to a wall-jack.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Asif Khokhar whose telephone number is (571) 270-3221. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday 7:30am-5pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Ho can be reached on (571) 272-7365. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.